



## Kobi - Grenfell, NSW

Kobi was only a few months shy of turning two, when his parents Felicity and Renee first noticed one of his eyes was blood shot. Acting on their concerns, they took him to the doctor, who urgently referred Kobi to an Ophthalmologist. On examination it was quickly identified that Kobi's retina had completely detached. The doctor also informed Felicity and Renee that Kobi was already blind in the affected eye.

These devastating words were compounded by the news that Kobi's eye would need to be removed straight away. Cancer cells were detected in Kobi's optic nerve and it was imperative that he commence chemotherapy as soon as possible, at Westmead Children's Hospital in Greater Western Sydney.

Felicity, Renee, Kobi and his younger brother Charlie, travelled four and a half hours from their home in small town, Grenfell, NSW and moved into Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney (at Westmead), for the duration of Kobi's treatment.

Like many families who travel from regional towns across the country, Kobi's family were forced to leave behind their support network and all that is familiar, during one of the most stressful times of their lives.

Thanks to our generous corporate supporters though, Ronald McDonald House was able to provide Felicity, Renee, Kobi and Charlie with a home-away-from-home. A place where they could remain together as a family, always close to Kobi throughout his life-saving surgery and chemotherapy.

"We've been able to stay at Ronald McDonald House without paying for accommodation and this has been a huge relief for us. It's not just accommodation though, it is home-cooked meals, toys, books and climbing equipment for the kids," said Felicity.

Expressing their gratitude to the staff, volunteers and supporters of Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney, Felicity said, "I hope you understand how grateful we are."



#keepingfamiliesclose

### Ronald McDonald House Charities

provides essential accommodation and support services for seriously ill or injured children and their families. We help to preserve the family unit in the midst of physical, emotional and financial stress, while being supported by dedicated and friendly staff and volunteers.

Please ensure elements of this family story from Ronald McDonald House Charities Greater Western Sydney are not altered. If you require further information or clarification, please contact our Communications and Marketing team on: (02) 9875 7077